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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet) REPORT NO.

TOPIC Volkspolizei Grenzbereitschaft in Gefell in the Vorkland

EVALUATION **25X1X** PLACE OBTAINED **25X1A**

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 3 April 1952

DATE OBTAINED **25X1A** DATE PREPARED 14 May 1952

REFERENCES **25X1A**

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. Prior to 3 April 1952, the Volkspolizei Grenzbereitschaft (VPCB) in Gefell numbered about 700 police and was organized into the headquarters of about 70 men, 3 Kommandantur headquarters each of about 30 men, 9 Kommando headquarters each of about 9 men, 13 Grenzwachen (border posts) each of about 33 men and the 2 Kontrollpassierpunkte (check points) in Gutenfuerst with 25 men and in Juchhoch with 80 men. Under the reorganization program, the department Grenze was transferred to the Landespolizeibehörden (Land Police Headquarters) (LDVP) in early January 1952. In early April, the LDVP assumed the financial administration of the VPCBs whose financial sections were deactivated. In early April, the VPCB in Gefell was reinforced by members of the HVA.
2. At the time reported, the VPCB in Gefell was employed as follows:  
  
Kommandantur 1 in Murbach with Kommandos in Titschendorf, Lehesten and Schlegel; and Grenzwachen in Titschendorf, Lehesten, Schlegel, Luerrenbach, Trunkach and Brennersgruen.  
  
Kommandantur 2 in Hirschberg on the Saale River with Kommandos in Blankenstein, Hirschberg and Cebersreuth; Grenzwachen in Poddiga, Blankenstein, Hirschberg, Venzka, and Moedlareuth; and a Kontrollpassierpunkt in Juchhoch.  
  
Kommandantur 3 in Gross Zoebern with Kommandos in Grobau, Heinersgruen and Troschenreuth; Grenzwachen in Grobau, Krebs, Heinersgruen, Niedersberg, Troschenreuth and Posseck; and a Kontrollpassierpunkt in Gutenfuerst.
3. Officers of the VPCB included VP Kommandeur Wagner (fnu), commanding officer; VP Oberst Rathe, (fnu) chief of staff; VP Rat Albert, (fnu), chief of the K section; VP Oberkommissar Reppien (fnu), liaison officer to the Ministry of State Security; and VP Rat Hoffmann (fnu), commanding officer of the Kommandantur in Gross Zoebern.
4. The VPCB in Gefell was scheduled to be transferred to the Lug ins Land hotel in Schleitz and to receive the new designation VPCB in Schleitz. The Kommandantur in Hirschberg was then to be transferred to Gefell.

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5. The following Soviet control stations existed for the area of the Kommandantur in Gross Zebern at the time of observation: at Gassenreuth for the Grenzwachen in Fosbeck and Droschenreuth, in the Lossenberg area for the Grenzwache in Niedersberg, at Larkgruen for the Grenzwachen in Heinersgruen and Krebs and at Gutenfuerst for the Grenzwachen in Grobau and Gebersreuth. \*

25X1A \* **Comment.** The headquarters of the VPCB in Gefell is said to have moved to Sealsburg about January 1952. The personnel strength of 700 men as mentioned in the report is probably too low. Using the strengths of the headquarters and the subordinate units as a base figure, 940 men would be the total strength. The now authorized strength of the VPCBs employed at the zonal border is about 960, and it is probable that the actual strength of the VPCB in Gefell is 940, rather than 700. The report confirms that the VPCB was recently organized into the headquarters, 3 Kommandanturen, 2 Kommandos and 18 Grenzwachen.

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